

NH-INBRE-FUNDING OPPORTUNITY ANNOUNCEMENT (FOA) RESEARCH AND PILOT PROJECTS

1. Introduction.

The National Institutes of Health (NIH) IDeA (Institutional Development Award) Program aims to enhance the competitiveness of academic institutions in 23 states including New Hampshire. The INBRE program (IDeA Network for Biomedical Research Excellence) supports biomedical research networks among colleges within an IDeA state to enhance their research infrastructure and culture. A major IDeA mission is to provide research opportunities to undergraduate students to encourage their pursuit of biomedical careers, with the hope that biotechnology, pharmaceutical, and related companies will establish new facilities within IDeA states based on the growth of the workforce. The purpose of the NH INBRE Research and Pilot Project grants is to provide biomedical research projects through the development of productive research faculty who ultimately become competitive for extramural research funding. NH INBRE Research and Pilot Project grants provide substantial support for faculty research effort, supplies, training, and additional resources of up to \$150,000 and \$90,000 respectively per year for 2 years. Faculty awarded project funding will also receive institutional and scientific mentorship to assist in meeting milestones for submission of research publications and extramural grant applications.

2. Eligibility.

New Proposals. Faculty members at a NH-INBRE partner institution whose research interests have biomedical relevance are eligible to apply for new Research or Pilot Project grant support. This includes most faculty in the life sciences, including clinical researchers in nursing, as well as some whose proposed studies are in biomedically-relevant areas of environmental science, computer science, chemistry, neuroscience, psychology, and physics.

Renewals. Faculty who are Principal Investigators (PIs) on Research or Pilot Project grants that are currently funded by NH-INBRE for less than 5 years are eligible to submit a renewal application to extend their work for an additional two years. Continued support will depend upon the PIs making substantial progress towards their original specific aims.

Biomedical relevance: Projects should fit within one or more of NH-INBRE's four broad research themes: (1) Microbial Pathogenesis; (2) Cellular and Molecular Biology; (3) Neurobiology and Behavior; (4) Human Health. Projects do not need to directly address human health and human biology but should be related to the overall NIH mission to support biomedical research in a rigorous and reproducible manner.

3. Research vs. Pilot Project Grants

Research Projects (RPs) require PIs to commit 50% dedicated effort. Pilot Projects (PPs) require PIs to commit 25% dedicated effort.

Collaborative Research/Pilot Projects (CRP, CPP) must have a single PI from an NH-INBRE PUI partner and at least one Co-Investigator from a different PUI or lead institution who makes both significant intellectual and experimental contribution to the proposed research aims. A Co-Investigator can receive up to 15% salary support effort as long as it is proportional to their scientific contribution to the project aims. Collaborators who provide reagents, data, or statistical and analytical support are ineligible for salary support but may receive funding for supplies.

4. Letters of Intent.

PIs are required to submit a Letter of Intent (LOI) via their institution's sponsored projects or business office to Jennifer Chretien (Jennifer.Chretien@dartmouth.edu) by **November 1, 2022**.

The LOI (up to 2 pages) should include:

- a) The PI and collaborators' names, professional titles, and institutional affiliations
- b) Type of grant: (RP, PP, CRP, CPP)
- c) Project Title
- d) Specific Aims
- e) A paragraph addressing the biomedical relevance of the project, including how the project fits into one or more of the NH-INBRE themes. This part of the LOI should not be longer than two pages.

The LOI should also include the following (does not count towards page limit):

- f) List of PI's publications (with NH INBRE student names bolded), submitted manuscripts (with status), current and past funding, and submitted grant applications with their status (submitted, funded, not funded, score) from the last 5 years.
- g) A signed statement from an appropriate institutional official confirming adherence to the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) agreed to by their school, including a commitment from the school to approve release time from teaching and service obligations consistent with the PI's percent effort on the project.

LOIs will be evaluated by the NH-INBRE Administrative Core (Bill Green, Steve Fiering, Yina Huang) to determine whether they are of sufficient biomedical relevance, fall within one or more of the NH-INBRE themes and are likely to be competitive for funding. **PIs of approved LOIs will be notified by November 15, 2022** and invited to submit a full grant proposal. Part II of this FOA will be issued at that time and will include details on the format, required components, grant budgets, page limits as well as grant review criteria.

Human subjects and vertebrate animals. If you are invited to submit a full grant proposal and the proposed research involves either human subjects or vertebrate animals, approval of the appropriate institutional review committee (e.g., IRB, IACUC) will be required prior to the commencement of the research project.

Contact Yina Huang if you have questions about yina@dartmouth.edu; 603-646-5373.

Key NH-INBRE Project and Pilot Project Grant Dates

Early October 2022	Funding Opportunity Announcement (FOA) with details about LOI submission sent to Steering committee members for distribution.
November 1, 2022	Deadline for submission of Letters of Intent (LOIs) by PI's sponsored projects/business office
November 15, 2022	Notification of LOI status. PIs with accepted LOIs will be invited to submit full applications. Part II of the FOA will be issued at this time.
January 15, 2023	Deadline for full grant submission for NH-INBRE funding
February 2023	Following outside peer review, proposals recommended for funding by NH-INBRE Administrative Core will be sent to NH-INBRE External Advisory Committee (EAC) for approval.
March 2023	EAC approved Project PIs will be notified and can plan for summer work. Approved proposals will be forwarded to NIH approval. At this time, PIs can plan for summer work.
July 1, 2023	Faculty should plan for a July 1, 2022 start date; however, Project funding requires receipt of both NIH Project approval and NH-INBRE Notice of Award (NOA). Should this be administratively delayed, we will work with PUIs so that a full summer of research can be conducted. For renewal projects, there should be no break in funding between the end of the prior grant period on June 30 and the start of the next one.